

SHO' JURORS OPEN PROBE OF LYNCHING

Questioning of 102 Witnesses
At Salisbury Expected to
Take 3 Days

LANE DIRECTS ACTIVITIES

Officials Hint Indictments Will
Bring Quick Trial

Special to The Post

SALISBURY, Md.—Wicomico County's grand jury today began the arduous task of questioning 102 witnesses summoned in connection with the probe of the lynching of Matthew Williams, colored, here last Dec. 14.

Attorney General W. Preston Lane and Deputy Attorney General Anderson are here to assist State's Attorney Levin C. Bailey, who is in charge of the investigation.

Probe Is Secret

Proceedings of the grand jury are secret, and it could not be learned who were the first witnesses before the inquisitorial group. So lengthy is the list of witnesses summoned, however, that the investigation is expected to extend over at least three days.

Among the 102 witnesses called are leading citizens of Salisbury and Wicomico County. The list includes two former mayors, a judge of the Orphans Court, physicians and nurses at the town hospital, the chief of police and three patrolmen, state police officers, the sheriff and two deputies, newspaper men, the Salisbury town attorney, a pugilist, several farmers, an author and numerous others.

Aided Attorney General

Several persons from adjoining counties also have been summoned, as well as two Baltimore detectives, Serjts. Walter Martin and Graydon L. Ware.

The detectives aided Attorney General Lane in a lengthy investigation he conducted into all phases of the lynching during the past three months.

It will be the duty of the grand

jury to decide, on a basis of the testimony of witnesses summoned before it, whether or not there are sufficient grounds for indicting anyone in connection with the Williams lynching—either as leader of the mob or as a member of it.

The Wicomico County Circuit Court is in session, and if any indictments are returned, it is likely the trial may be held immediately.

List of Witnesses

Below is the complete list of witnesses called before the grand jury, who will be heard during the next three days:

G. Murray Phillips, sheriff.
Charles H. Pruitt and Donald A. Parks, deputy sheriffs.
Sergt. M. D. Brubaker and Patrolman J. C. Peroutka, state police.
Miss Helen V. Wise, superintendent, Peninsula General Hospital, and Miss Florence S. Smith, Miss Helen E. Fisher, Miss Myrtle Wright and Miss Robinson, nurses.
Dr. R. M. Nook, Dr. J. McFadden Dick, Dr. Creston Collins, Dr. S. H. Hurdle, Dr. Hunter R. Mann, James Handy, Leah Brewington and John Easton, attaches at the hospital.
Chief of Police N. H. Holland and City Patrolman Samuel C. Broughton, Carl W. Wilson and John M. Goslee.
Ira D. Turner, clerk of the Circuit Court.
John H. Farlow, former sheriff.
N. James Gordy, garage man.
P. E. Burroughs, member of the State Legislature.
Hooper S. Miles, lawyer, banker and city solicitor.
Lee Webster Selfe, executive vice president, bus and freight boat companies.
David J. Ward, state senator.
Judge E. Urie Oliphant, of the Orphans Court.
William F. Calloway, manufacturer.
L. Thomas Parker, former mayor.
John W. Downing, banker.
Reese Gordy, garage man.
W. Arthur Kennerly, former mayor.
Otho L. Byrd, manager of a telephone office.
W. C. Thurston, author.
Lee O. Harris, painter.
A. B. Jacques, telephone company official.
J. H. Schramm, merchant.
H. B. Causey, farmer.
Howard Campbell, merchant.
Leon Sklar, photographer.
Roger Bailey, clerk.
Rufus Perry, merchant.
William Maddox, clerk.
Russell Dennis, pugilist.
Norman Perdue, garage man.
Marion Smith, contractor.
Conrad O. Long, lumber man.
Alfred T. Truitt, publisher.
Charles J. Truitt, publisher.
E. Sheldon Jones, editor.
Wallace M. White, advertising manager.
Kid Ritchie, pugilist.
Mrs. Charles H. Truitt, wife of deputy sheriff.
William O. Dolan, orchestra director.
Elmer Heaster.
J. Ralph Wimbrow.
Alexander Pollitt.
William Perry.
Ralph Corbin.
John Crockett.
Fred Ruark.
Talbot Larmore.
Herman Townsend.
Pat Hitchens.
Martin Clarke.
Sam Preston.
Louis Smith.
Elwood Waller.
Henry Yowell.
Lillian Serman.
Patsy Johnson.
Benjamin Parsons.
Sid Church.
Mrs. Mary Heath.
Negroes from Wicomico County are:

Marion Tally, Leandon Morris, Howard Leonard, Merle Friend, Walter Dashiell, Jacob T. Conquest, patient in hospital ward from which Williams was taken; Dr. Arthur D. Brown, James F. Stewart, Ned Roberts, John Williams, William Purnell and Henry Purnell.

Worcester County witnesses:

Severn W. Murray, Berlin.
Beulah Smith, Snow Hill.
Robert Allen, chief of police of Ocean City.

Rufus Jernigan, Snow Hill, Negro, patient in hospital ward from which William was taken.

Somerset County witnesses:

William Harrington, Mount Vernon.
Maslin Pinkett, Princess Anne.
J. R. Waters, Princess Anne.
John J. Thompson, former state patrolman, Arbutus.
Detective Sergeants Walter Martin and Graydon L. Ware, Baltimore City.

IMPEACHMENT ASKED IN LYNCHING PROBE

Impeachment of Judge Joseph L. Bailey, presiding jurist at Salisbury, where the grand jury is investigating the Matthew Williams lynching, was demanded today by the Inter-

national Labor Defense in telegram to Governor Ritchie.

The organization also demanded a new grand jury of white and Negro workers, the demands being made in the telegram to the governor and one to Judge Bailey.

"The International Labor Defense regards the investigating body without Negroes and poor farmers on it as a lynch jury seeking to protect the murderers of Matthew Williams," the telegram to Judge Bailey said.

The telegrams were signed by Louis Berger, secretary of the organization.

Bernard Ades, attorney for the International Labor Defense, said today he had been asked by officials of that organization to attend the inquiry at Salisbury. Ades said he would not attend nor would he send a representative, as the jury investigations are secret.

Expects No Indictment

Ades said he is convinced the grand jury will return no indictments in the lynching case.

"The Eastern Shore people are not taking this investigation seriously," Ades said. "It is a farce, from beginning to end. The people who really know about the lynching were not even summoned. We know who they are, and the state officials know, but summons for them were not issued."

"People wouldn't believe me when I said the Eastern Shoremen tried to frame Orphan Jones, but now you see them framing the International Labor Defense."

Orphan Jones, also known as Euel Lee, is a colored man accused of murdering a family of four persons in Worcester County last Oct. 12. Ades defended him at a trial at Towson, at which Jones, or Lee, was found guilty and sentenced to be hanged. An appeal has been filed, which is still pending.

*Williams
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